

# Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (HGA)

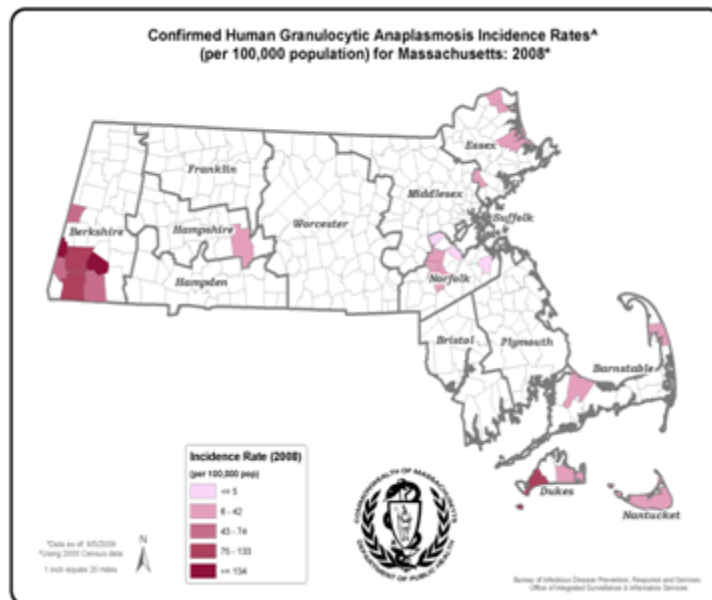
## Surveillance in Massachusetts, 2008

### Massachusetts Department of Public Health

#### 2008 Surveillance Highlights

- 41 confirmed cases of HGA cases were reported in Massachusetts in 2008, representing a 29% decrease from the number of cases reported in 2007.
- Regions with the highest incidence included southern Berkshire County and the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard.
- The highest number of confirmed cases occurred in May and June. Only 37% of confirmed cases reported knowing that they had a recent tick bite.
- 63% of confirmed cases were 65 years or older. The average age for a confirmed HGA case was 61.5 years and 46% were male.
- 34% of confirmed cases were hospitalized. The average age for a confirmed case who was hospitalized was 77.7 years.
- The most common symptoms reported by confirmed cases included fever (98%), myalgia [muscle aches] (85%), and malaise (83%).

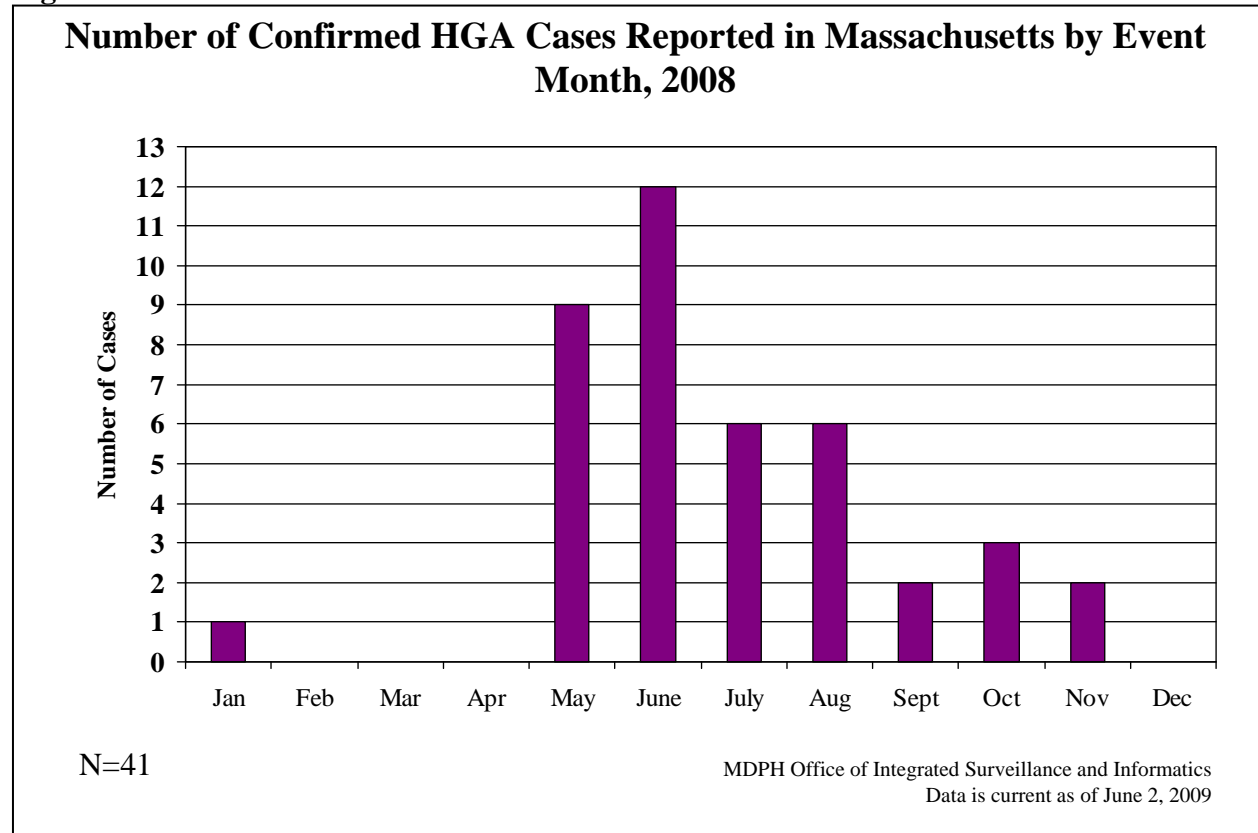
The map below illustrates HGA incidence rates per 100,000 by city and town of residence in Massachusetts in 2008. Areas of highest incidence include Nantucket, southern Berkshire County and Martha's Vineyard. No confirmed cases of HGA were reported from Bristol, Franklin, Hampden, Middlesex, Plymouth, Suffolk or Worcester Counties in 2008.



| County                   | 2008<br>Confirmed<br>Cases (#) | 2008<br>Incidence Rate<br>(per 100,000) |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Barnstable               | 3                              | 1.4                                     |
| Berkshire                | 20                             | 15.5                                    |
| Bristol                  | 0                              | 0                                       |
| Dukes and<br>Nantucket** | 6                              | 24.4                                    |
| Essex                    | 4                              | 0.5                                     |
| Franklin                 | 0                              | 0                                       |
| Hampden                  | 0                              | 0                                       |
| Hampshire                | 1                              | 0.6                                     |
| Middlesex                | 0                              | 0                                       |
| Norfolk                  | 7                              | 1.1                                     |
| Plymouth                 | 0                              | 0.0                                     |
| Suffolk                  | 0                              | 0.0                                     |
| Worcester                | 0                              | 0.0                                     |
| <b>State Total</b>       | <b>41</b>                      | <b>0.6</b>                              |

**\*\*Statistics for Dukes and Nantucket counties are combined in accordance with confidentiality guidelines.**

**Figure 1.**



**Figure 2.**

